

Chief, Liaison Division, OCR

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Chief, FOIAB3B1

Soviet Radio Receiver Characteristics

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1. It is estimated by OCR working with that approximately 6,000,000 broadcast receivers of all types, ranging from simple crystal receivers to elaborate superheterodynes, are in use in the U.S.S.R. Legally, a receiver may be purchased by anyone who can pay the price, but the Soviet Government maintains strict controls over all types of communications media in the hands of its citizens, thus limiting ownership and "free use" of radio receivers. Only a small percentage of the population, almost exclusively urban, owns tunable vacuum-tube receivers which may be used in circumstances comparable to those found in countries outside the Soviet Bloc. By far the major portion of the Soviet population listens to radio programs through the Soviet-originated system of wire-diffusion. This is a system of transmission by wire of programs directly from the originating studio, or by relay from a central radio receiver to loudspeakers in private dwellings, public and semi-public gathering places, industrial enterprises, etc. Thus the great majority of Soviet citizens can receive only the programs that are fed to them by the wire-diffusion system.

2. The closest known Siberian radiobroadcasting centers to the area in question are located at Magadan and Petropavlovsk, neither of which presently broadcast on the mediumwave band. Petropavlovsk formerly transmitted on 565 kcs, but gave up that frequency in favor of 155 kcs in March 1954.

3. Khabarovsk is the main broadcasting center for domestic programs intended for listeners in Eastern Siberia. It operates on 11837-9750-9565-9380-7225-7150-6115-5940-4273-335 kcs. Other domestic broadcasts in Eastern Siberia originate at Birobidzhan, 191 kcs; Blagoveshchensk, 4956-227 kcs; Magadan, 9475-5990-4995-4320 kcs; Nikolayevsk, 5230 kcs; Petropavlovsk, 5050-155 kcs; Vladivostok, 5016-380-245-180 kcs; Yakutsk, 5979-263 kcs; and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 4630-973-360 kcs.

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